

Appl. No.: 10/689,372
Amdt. dated 06/20/2005
Reply to Office action of December 20, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A stackable food storage container structured to display information provided on a display token, comprising:
 - a bottom wall;
 - a peripheral wall having inner and outer surfaces, said the peripheral wall having a top end and a bottom end that adjoins said the bottom wall, said the peripheral wall and said bottom wall defining a storage area for food; and
 - a display window extending from the outer surface of said the peripheral wall, said the display window having first and second sidewalls and a wall spaced away from the outer surface of said the peripheral wall to define a partially enclosed gap therebetween structured to receive the display token.
2. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the peripheral wall defines a plurality of side-walls sidewalls, and wherein said the display window extends from one of said the side-walls sidewalls
3. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the peripheral wall extends from said the bottom wall at a predetermined angle such that the container is stackable.
4. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 3, wherein said the peripheral wall includes a lip extending therefrom, said the lip extending a distance greater than said the wall of said the display window from the outer surface of said the peripheral wall.
5. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said the bottom wall, peripheral wall, and display window are each formed from a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, polyethylene, and polycarbonate.

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6. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the wall of said the display window is at least partially transparent.

7. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the wall of said the display window defines an opening therethrough.

8. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the display window defines at least one drainage channel in communication with said the gap defined by said the wall of said the display window and said the peripheral wall, said the at least one drainage channel adapted for allowing liquid to pass therethrough.

9. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the display window is attached to said the peripheral wall.

10. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the display window is integrally formed with said the peripheral wall.

11. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, wherein said the wall of said the display window and said the peripheral wall define an angle therebetween.

12. (currently amended) A food storage container according to Claim 1, further comprising at least one additional display window extending from said the peripheral wall.

13. (currently amended) A food storage container and information display system, comprising:

a container, comprising:

a bottom wall;

a peripheral wall having inner and outer surfaces, said the peripheral wall having a top end and a bottom end that adjoins said the bottom wall, said the peripheral wall and bottom wall defining a storage area for receiving food goods; and

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a display window extending from said the peripheral wall, said the display window having first and second sidewalls and a wall spaced away from said the peripheral wall to define a partially enclosed gap therebetween; and

at least one display token adapted for removable insertion into said the gap defined by said the display window, said first and second sidewalls and said the peripheral wall, said the at least one display token being visible through at least one of said the wall of the display window and said the peripheral wall.

14. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token comprises seven tokens, each of said the seven tokens corresponding to a respective day of the week.

15. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the display window is sized to receive accommodate only one of said at least one display tokens in said the gap.

16. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token is reusable.

17. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the peripheral wall defines a plurality of side walls sidewalls, and wherein said the display window extends from one of said the side walls sidewalls.

18. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the peripheral wall extends from said the bottom wall at a predetermined angle such that the container is stackable.

19. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 18, wherein said the peripheral wall defines a lip extending therefrom, said the lip extending a distance greater than the wall of the display window from the peripheral wall.

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20. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein at least one of said the bottom wall, peripheral wall, display window, and at least one display token are each formed from a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, polyethylene, and polycarbonate.

21. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the wall of said the display window is at least partially transparent such that said the at least one display token can be seen therethrough.

22. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the wall of said the display window defines an opening therethrough such that said the at least one display token can be seen therethrough.

23. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the display window defines at least one drainage channel in communication with said the gap defined by said the wall of said the display window and said the peripheral wall, said the at least one drainage channel adapted for allowing fluid to pass therethrough.

24. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the display window is attached to said the peripheral wall.

25. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the display window is integrally formed with said the peripheral wall.

26. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token has a thickness of about 2 millimeters.

27. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token has a shape selected from the group consisting of round, polygonal, and elliptical.

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28. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 27, wherein said the display window is shaped in a configuration corresponding to conforming arrangement with said the shape of the at least one display token.

29. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the wall of said the display window and said the peripheral wall define an angle therebetween.

30. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token comprises a plurality of tokens, each of said at least one the tokens having a unique identifier selected from the group consisting of color and text.

31. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token is adapted to sink in water.

32. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein said the at least one display token is double-sided and has identification information on each side thereof.

33. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, ~~wherein the container is adapted for storing food products, and~~ wherein said the at least one display token is adapted for indicating an production date of the food products.

34. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, wherein the top end of said the peripheral wall includes a flange portion that extends outwardly, and wherein said the display window extends from said the flange portion of said the peripheral wall.

35. (currently amended) A container system according to Claim 13, further comprising at least one additional display window extending from said the peripheral wall for receiving at least one of said the at least one display token.

36. (currently amended) A method of storing food goods, comprising:
storing the food goods in a container, the container having a peripheral wall and a display window extending from the peripheral wall, the display window having first and second

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sidewalls and a wall spaced away from the peripheral wall to define a partially enclosed gap therebetween;

selecting a display token corresponding to information pertaining to the food goods; and

inserting the display token in the gap defined by the [a] display window and first and second sidewalls positioned on the peripheral wall of the container such that the display token is visible through at least one of the display window and the peripheral wall of the container.

37. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36, wherein said the selecting step includes determining the goods' expiration date of the food, and then selecting a color-coded display token corresponding to the goods' expiration date of the food.

38. (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36, further comprising at least partially submerging the container, display token, and display window in liquid, whereby the display token remains in the display window while submerged.

40. (cancelled)

41. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36, wherein said the selecting step includes selecting a display token corresponding to a date that the ~~goods are~~ food is produced.

42. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36, wherein said the inserting step includes inserting a first display token in a first display window, the first display token corresponding to a production date of the goods food, and inserting a second display token in a second display window, the second display token corresponding to an expiration date of the goods food.